

# WOMAN'S REALM

## Good Taste and Cleverness.

This is especially true if the woman herself has that most useful gift bestowed by the birth fairies, good taste. More often than not the woman who needs to study economy is the one who is most richly endowed with this faculty, and it is apt to be combined with clever, practical ability to either do the necessary work of making up home gowns, or to direct the home dressmaker in her labors, so that the finished frock has an air of style that makes it "go" in many more places than for simple home use.

## Measurements.

A perfectly formed woman will stand at the height of from five feet three to five feet seven inches. She will weigh from 125 to 140 pounds.

A plumb line dropped from a point marked by the tip of her nose will fall at a point one inch in front of her great toe. Her shoulders and hips will strike a straight line drawn up and down.

Her bust should measure from twenty-eight to thirty-six inches; her hips from six to ten inches more than this, and her waist should be from twenty-two to twenty-eight inches in circumference.

## Worries.

If you fail to see beauty and goodness in life look in your own heart for the cause. We invite all that comes to us.

Put the small worries where they belong, at the foot of the list, says the Woman's Magazine. Do not allow the cook and the milkman to be the bell masters of your soul with power to make your days unpleasant.

If you find that you are getting panicky over a condition or an individual or a bit of gossip or a disappointment of any sort, why run away from it if need be, but maintain a serene view of life and see things as they really are.

## Vanishing of Costly Favors.

"Women who spend many thousands of dollars on a cotillon are happily few," says a cynic; "else the sanitariums, which already are crowded, would have to reconstruct their walls of rubber in order to hold the patients. But several shining lights of the plutocracy manage to reach that goal of the 'spender.' At a recent cotillon the favors were so costly that many young women were moved to tears when, at home-coming time, they couldn't find the favors. Yes, many of the trophies had been carried away most mysteriously. The young men, especially, 'lost' many of their choicest favors, but of course they took that bad luck good-naturedly.—New York Press.

## Chemical Blushes.

A dermatologist has solved the mystery of converting a faded society woman into a study in pink and white. The beauty doctor has already made several successful experiments with his fountain of youth. He simply tattoos a blush on the cheeks without injury to the flesh or skin. He declares the process does not cause pain—not even a wince—because the needle only enters the skin one-sixteenth of an inch. He uses vegetable coloring to produce the schoolgirl blush. This is injected under the skin. The fluid is said to be quite harmless. Two sittings are necessary for a complete operation, and the effect for a few days is not pretty. The complexion changes from pink to red, and finally to a delicate pink.—Pittsburg Dispatch.

## Dutch Girls Lucky.

In Holland girls have exactly the same privileges as boys when it comes to a question of higher education. There are no special courses, universities or preparatory school for girls in the land where Queen Wilhelmina rules.

All institutions for higher education are open to men and women equally, and on the same terms; students of either sex are treated in the same way and have to pass the same examinations.

After having left the primary school girls and boys who wish to enter the university go to a public grammar school, into which they are admitted at the age of twelve or fourteen, on passing an entrance examination.

## Kipling a Feminist.

A French writer who is a great admirer of Rudyard Kipling, has discovered with surprise and some apparent joy that Kipling is a feminist. Kipling, who mocked his own sex with caustic pen, he finds bestowing on woman the admiration he is unable to feel for men. The discovery was made at a dinner, where Kipling said the women govern Africa, and there would not have been a war if they had not said to the men: "You go and fight the English or you will have to settle with us." The men did not want war but they did not dare to stay at home. The women in Africa govern all, not as in Europe, where the pretty ones sway the world, but by sheer maternal force. A fat, homely mother of many in South Africa knew how to make herself obeyed if not how to please.

## Women to the Front in Science.

Two of the most famous scientific bodies in the world—the Royal Society of London and the University of Paris—have just, by a striking coincidence, bestowed remarkable honors upon two women for original and unaided discoveries in science. One of these women, to whom an audience of grave and learned professors assembled within the walls of the renowned Sorbonne, in Paris, has been listening, with the attention and humility of pupils in the presence of a recognized master, is Madame Curie, who is usually spoken of as the co-discoverer of radium. The fact is, however, that, while Madame Curie labored together with her late husband in unfolding the surprising properties of that substance whose strange behavior has required a re-laying of the bases of physical science, she herself was the sole original discoverer. It is in consequence of this fact that the Academy of Sciences has given her a professor's chair, and that now she is a lecturer at the Sorbonne—an accepted authority at the fountain head of French science.

The English woman who has just won a recognition, not less significant in the scientific world, is Mrs. W. E. Ayrton, to whom the Royal Society has awarded a much-coveted medal for her original researches on the electric arc; and also for her studies of "sand ripples," a subject that probably appeals very little to the imagination of the average reader; but then science has its arcana, wherein everything is very clear to the elect, and this is of them. Everybody, however, appreciates what it must mean, in these days, to throw new light upon the problems of electricity, and this Mrs. Ayrton has done so successfully that British men of science bow to her words, and confess that she has clearly distanced them.

It is true that Mrs. Ayrton, like Madame Curie, has worked side by side with her husband, and there may be some obstinate upholders of the old doctrine of the supremacy of the masculine brain who will be ungenerous enough to put stress upon that fact, as if it were of particular importance. But they will fail to make their point, for the testimony is overwhelming that, in both cases, these women were absolutely original in their work and needed no helping hand.

Two swallows do not make a summer, of course, and it is not to be expected that woman will suddenly take her stand beside man in the forefront of scientific advance. Nobody would wish that she should. Man is quite content that she shall remain behind, amid more agreeable and pleasing surroundings, where she can enjoy the fruits of his discoveries. He has always been willing to work for her, and he is willing still. He is also quite ready to take any credit that may come from his work. But, as the action of the representative scientific bodies of France and England has just demonstrated, the man of science at least knows when he is beaten by his sisters, and is not averse to sitting at their feet when he is sure that they have something to teach him.—New York American.



Huge flowers of silk and velvet are used on the hats.

Wide bands of braid are used on both jacket and skirt.

All pleated skirts are stitched down to below the hips.

The principal millinery trimmings seen are wings and feathers.

For everything except storm coats and strictly tailored waists, sleeves are three-quarter length or shorter.

An oddity of some evening gowns is that the short puff sleeves are of different fabric from the rest of the gown.

Brooches and buckles of carved coral are quite the thing, and young girls especially find them very attractive.

The brownish gray of moleskin is a leading tone among dress fabrics, both in sheer stuffs and heavier cloths.

The fashion in sleeves leaves little to be desired, for they are generally of medium size, and either trimmed lavishly or made quite plain, according to the garment they complete.

The velvet hem on filmy gowns is one of the reigning fancies and an exceedingly pretty one. The slight dragging of the heavy hem adds to the slender appearance so desirable.

The bolero makes its appearance in the realm of lingerie in the night-gown yoke of allover embroidery, bolero-shaped edges with ribbon-run beading and finished with a soft rosette in front.

The chief point of difference in style between gowns of cloth or velvet and those of diaphanous material is in the skirts which are often quite plain in the former, but both skirt and bodice of sheer gowns are most elaborately trimmed.

There are 73,000 Baptists in Massachusetts.

## DECLINE OF HYSTERICIS.

EVEN THE PEARL-LIKE TEAR IS OUT OF FASHION.

Babies no Longer Squall—Moderns Resort to Strong Language Rather Than Exhibit Emotion—As for

Swoning, She Doesn't Know How. Human nature being largely made up of emotions, it is interesting to observe how different generations have stood with regard to their development or suppression. In no way, indeed, is the change in woman during the last fifty years more apparent than in this matter.

In the Early Victorian Era, when every woman was overwhelmed by her emotions, it was considered the correct thing for her to weep and shriek, to faint and have hysterics on every possible occasion. We have only to read the novels of the period to see how tears exuded from the heroine like water from a sponge whenever she was touched, how she invariably, on the receipt of bad news, fell into a "death-like swoon," or sank "lifeless" into somebody's arms after emitting a series of piercing shrieks.

To the present generation, which prides itself on nothing so much as its sense of humor, there is something eminently ludicrous in the abnormally developed sensibility of these heroines of fiction; while to an age in which both sexes limit the expression of their more painful emotions to the comprehensive word "damn," it is absolutely unintelligible not only why the hysterical Fannies and swooning Amelias were ever tolerated, but how they actually managed to lose consciousness in the way described.

The modern woman not only never thinks of fainting when she is thrown over by an unscrupulous lover, but she is physically incapable of doing so. She may faint as the result of a blow on her nose from a hockey stick, or be picked up in a swoon from among the debris of a motor-car; but she could no more lose consciousness on receiving a letter than she could get concussion of the brain on accepting a proposal.

The difference between her and her grandmother, far, however, from being one of physical constitution, is in reality, nothing but a difference in attitude. Our emotions being based upon the senses are largely a question of habit, and become intensified or weakened as we cultivate or suppress them. The very fact of these Early Victorian women never controlling theirs, undoubtedly led to their over-development, just as the modern custom of repressing ours is gradually leading to a general petrifying of the emotions.

Women are proverbially said to live in extremes, and certainly in the matter of emotionalism there would seem to be a good deal of truth in the remark. With the decay of sentimentality and the decline of hysterics we seem to have embarked on an era of feminine imperturbability, which is al-

most as unnatural as the swoons and "vapors" of a previous age. Tears are out of fashion.

No self-respecting child ever sheds them nowadays, while a squalling baby is only met with in the lower orders. Not to be able to control one's emotions is to be guilty of the worst possible "form." The greater the shock we sustain the tighter we shut our lips, and the more we suffer the less we betray it. Here and there, it is true, you will find traces of feminine weakness lurking in unsuspected corners, women who can still "turn on the waterworks," and know how to sob and how to harrow the hearts of their husbands and their lovers, but these women are rare. The generality, if they ever shed a tear at all, shed it in secret, and if they should be found with a suspicion of redness in their eyes will hastily attribute it to a cold in the head.—Philadelphia Record.

## SAWING WOOD WITH COMPRESSED AIR.

Cutting Cord Wood With a Simple Pneumatic Engine.

Compressed air has not been so extensively applied to the operation of railway cars as was once expected, electricity having proved a more convenient, if not a more economical agent for that purpose. But it is still generally used for drilling holes in rock, preparatory to blasting, and for riveting boiler plates and the material employed in bridge construction. The pneumatic hammer can be carried wherever the end of the hose (for a supply of air) will go, and it works very much more rapidly than a hammer manipulated by hand. Still another class of service to which compressed air is devoted is sawing wood. In that class of work it is only necessary to produce a reciprocating motion, like that of a piston, and so the principle of the pneumatic hammer can here be turned to account. An exceedingly simple engine, constructed of brass and steel tubing, will suffice.

According to "Compressed Air," a monthly periodical devoted to the interests which its name suggests, the chief feature is a tubular valve, which will work equally well in whatever position the machine be placed. The general appearance of the device is admirably shown in the accompanying illustration. The mechanism comprises a frame, resting on the log and equipped with a book to grip the same; a slender cylinder with an oscillating piston, and a flexible pipe to furnish the air. The cylinder (and consequently the saw) can be shifted from one side to the other of the frame, without freshly setting the latter. The distance between the two positions regulates the length of the cut, which is either sixteen or twenty-six inches. The former would usually be preferable for stove wood and the latter for locomotive fuel. The frame weighs eighty-five pounds and the engine sixty-five. The saw is an ordinary five-inch or eight-inch drag saw.

The capacity of the machine is put

at five hundred logs in a day of ten hours, or twenty cords of four-foot wood in that interval. A pressure of seventy-five pounds to the inch is the ordinary one employed. Though the saw can be driven at the rate of one hundred and fifty strokes a minute sixty-five is the natural speed.

## 60,000,000 PERSONS AIDED.

Under German Accident, Illness and Old Age Insurance \$1,656,750,000 Has Been Paid.

The twenty-fifth anniversary of the late Prince Bismarck's announcement in the German Reichstag, at Berlin, that the Emperor should systematically assist the working people, male or female, by accident, illness and old age insurance, was commemorated on widely in the German press, which generally approved or disapproved the results, according to the political opinions of the commentators. The socialists, following the policy which they adopted when the laws were passed, found fault with the insurance as being inadequate and not radical enough to really provide for the "casualties in the industrial warfare and the disabilities of those worn out in the service of capital."

But the whole body of liberal and conservative opinion appeared convinced that the laws are beneficial. During the last twenty years \$55,750,000 has been paid out for illness; \$232,750,000 for accidents and \$13,500,000 for old age. The law also provides for compulsory contributions by employers and employees. In cases of illness two-thirds of the expenses are paid by the employer and one-third by the employee.

In accident cases all the expenses are paid by the employer, and in cases of old age pensions half the amount is paid by the employer and half by the employee, the government supplementing each pension, with \$12.50 yearly. The sum of \$312,500 was expended daily on the combined objects, the total of the various funds is \$375,000,000, the total amount paid in since the law was passed is \$1,656,750,000 and sixty million persons have profited by this legislation.

The official Imperial Gazette published a decree on the anniversary of the message of Emperor William I. on state insurance, pointing out the great ideas contained in the message, which not only had unrivaled success in His Majesty's own country, but was spreading beyond the frontiers of Germany, and adding:—

"Unfortunately the accomplishment of its highest aim has been retarded by the continuous opposition of those thinking themselves entitled to represent the interests of the working classes."

The message concludes with expressing the hope that the insurance bills may guarantee the inner peace of Germany, and announcing that it is the Emperor's will that the legislation shall continue until the task of protecting the poor and weak is accomplished.—New York Herald.

## The American Cow.

There are nearly 25,000,000 dairy cows in America and enough other cattle to make a total of over 60,000,000 head, including bulfs, oxen, young stock and the "flocks and herds which range the valley free," and all condemned to slaughter. There are less than a million thoroughbred cattle in the country and more than 48,000,000 scrubs. The rest are half or higher grades. About 20,000,000 calves are born annually. The average value of a cow is \$22. In Rhode Island, a dairying State, the average is \$39.

The cows of the United States yield about 9,000,000,000 gallons of milk a year (watered and unwatered), the butter product is nearly 2,000,000,000 pounds (all grades), and the product of cheese over 300,000,000 pounds. Our cheese industry is making enormous strides. In a short time the output will be 1,000,000,000 pounds. There is one item, a by-product, which is never alluded to when Mistress Cow or Sis Cow is considered. Our gold production is about \$81,000,000 a year at present. That is a vast sum of money. Yet the rakings of our cow yards and stalls for the fertilization of crops are estimated to be worth in cold cash eight times as much, or \$648,000,000! Such figures are bewildering. They stagger humanity.—New York Press.

## Paper Making Materials.

New materials from which paper can be made are continually being discovered. Recently pine waste has been successfully manufactured into that universal substance without which so many features of modern civilization could hardly survive. Fine paper can be made from corn stalks and from rice-straw. In addition to spruce, pine, fir, aspen, birch, sweet gum, cottonwood, maple, cypress and willow trees all contain fibre suitable for the manufacture of paper. Hemp, cotton, jute, Indian millet, and other fibrous plants can also be used for this purpose, so that there seems to be no danger of a dearth of paper.

The director of the Breslau Hygienic Institute has announced the result of his mosquito war experiments. The first object was to destroy egg-bearing females, which were found in large numbers in Breslau cellars. Fumigation was used, and the number falling on the papers placed on the floors often ran up to over 2000 mosquitoes. For destroying the larvae in pools of water fifty grains of "larvicide" was put into a cubic metre of water and poured into the pool. This kills all the larvae within half an hour, but does not harm frogs and fish.

Germany's shipments of cement to this country are dwindling noticeably. This country has cement of its own to sell nowadays. Last year it shipped abroad 1,007,000 barrels of cement, valued at \$1,484,000. "Up to 1897," remarks Consul Harris (Mannheim), "the export trade in American cement amounted to practically nothing."

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